

Serial No. 09/844,706
Attorney Docket No. 68146988.713

III. Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks. After the amendments detailed above, claims 1-3 and 6-9 have been amended and claims 4, 5 and 10 have been maintained in their previous form.

A. Interview Summary

Applicants provide the following written statement regarding the substance of the telephonic interview conducted on February 24, 2006 among Examiner Abel-Jalil, attorney for Applicant Richard V. Wells, and inventor Bob Ertl. The interview focused on the pending independent claims and the applicability of U.S. Patent No. 6,163,774 (Lore) to the patentability of the pending independent claims – claims 1 and 6. Specifically, Applicants explained the differences between the teachings of Lore and the subject matter of the independent claims. The interview also focused on a review of the claim terms of claims 1-10. Additional details are provided in the amendment, included herewith, and are adopted herein by reference.

B. Discussion of Lore

The Examiner rejected claims 1-10 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0078018 (Tse) in view of Lore. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections since Tse and Lore neither singularly, or in combination, teach or suggest the limitations of independent claims 1 and 6.

As discussed more fully in Applicants' last Response to Office Action, Tse differs from the present application in that Tse is directed to methods for building multiple data marts using a single aggregation process. In contrast, the pending claims are directed to the use of existing data marts to calculate a value for a measure. Applicants respectfully submit that Lore, like Tse, is also directed to building data marts, and therefore, does not teach or suggest at least the limitations of determining at least one allocated dimension level and calculating a value for the measure at the allocated dimension level. More specifically, Lore describes an expression language to more effectively and concisely define the set of aggregates to be built in each data mart in a data mart-building system, such as that described in Tse. In this respect, Lore can be considered to teach a component of Tse's data mart-building system. This understanding of

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Lore's relation to Tse (and thus distinction from the pending claims) is strengthened by the fact that Lore is a named inventor on the Tse reference and Tse is a named inventor on the Lore reference. Accordingly, Lore simply does not teach or suggest determining at least one allocated dimension level or calculating a value for the measure at the allocated dimension level as claimed in independent claims 1 and 6.

C. Conclusion

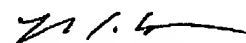
Claims 1-3 and 6-9 have been amended to clarify the subject matter of such claims in a manner consistent with discussions during the telephonic interview. In view of such amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-10 are now in condition for allowance. An early formal notice of allowance of claims is requested.

No fees are believed due. However, if any fees are required to complete this filing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 13-0480, Attorney Docket No. 68146988.713.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Amendment and Response to Office Action or the Application in general, Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' attorney at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 28 February 2006


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